

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-22 and 32 are pending in this application. Claims 3-4, 9, 13-14 and 21-22 are amended; Claim 32 is newly added; and Claims 1 and 23-24 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. Support for the new and amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.<sup>1</sup> No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 3-6, 9 and 13-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Page ("MAC-DSD Multi-channel Audio Connection for DSD", version 1.1, November 1, 2002 - 2004 IDS Paper Ref. "AR"); and Claims 7-8 and 10-12 are objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant appreciatively acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter, and notes that Claims 10 and 12 are actually independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references. In response, the pending dependent claims either depend from independent Claim 10, or are amended to depend from independent Claim 10, and are also believed to be allowable over the applied references.

Applicant, therefore, respectfully submits that Claims 3-22 and 32 are patentable over the applied references, and are condition for formal allowance.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

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<sup>1</sup> Claim 4 is amended to be similar to original Claim 4, and depends from independent Claim 10. New Claim 32 corresponds to original Claim 2 and also depends from Claim 10. The remaining claims are amended to ultimately depend from independent Claim 10 instead of canceled Claim 1.

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Reply to Office Action of May 16, 2008

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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